

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse Awareness

Elder and dependent adult abuse is a serious and growing crisis. In California, it is estimated that there are over 275,000 cases of elder and dependent adult abuse every month.

Elder abuse can take many forms, including physical, emotional, and sexual abuse, as well as neglect, abandonment, and financial exploitation. While physical abuse is the most obvious and easily recognized form of abuse, financial abuse is the most insidious -- victims are often intimidated, isolated, and coerced and feel shameful that it is happening to them.

Every community needs to be addressing how to protect and support older adults from these types of abuse. All Californians are encouraged to report suspected abuse of an elder or dependent adult by calling their local adult protective services agency, Long-Term Care Ombudsman, law enforcement, or emergency services agencies.

Sincerely,

Jerry Brown JR.